

5. The *Pinguipedidæ*, with the single genus *Pinguipes*, agree in all respects with the preceding, but as they lack the subocular lamina they should be regarded as a distinct family. *P. chilensis* has 38 vertebræ (17 + 21). These fishes bear a certain resemblance to the Labrid *Malopterus*, C. & V. (*Neolabrus*, Stdr.), the skeleton of which is still unknown; but its ally *Ctenolabrus* has 15-17 + 18-19 vertebræ, which is very near the number in *Pinguipes*.

XXXVII.—*New Insular Forms of Nasua and Dasyprocta.*  
By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

WHEN examining material in connexion with the new forms of *Nasua* described last month, the specimens from Cozumel Island in the Bay of Honduras struck me as peculiar, and now that the skulls have been prepared I find that this animal should be distinguished from that on the mainland. As I am responsible for its determination as *N. nasica* (see P. Z. S. 1888, p. 129), or *narica*, as I prefer now to call it, I think it well now to set the matter right, and also to point out that another identification made at the same time was erroneous, that of the Agouti from Ruatan, which likewise proves separable from its mainland ally.

*Nasua thersites*, sp. n.

Size markedly less than in the continental *N. narica*. General colour of head, nape, and posterior back dark brown ("seal-brown"), only grizzled across the shoulders, where the tips of the hairs are whitish or ashy. Continental specimens are usually grizzled further down the back. Bases of the brown hairs but little lighter than their tips. Under surface brown posteriorly on the belly, grizzled with whitish on the chest; the chin white. Face, as usual, brown, with a white muzzle and lips, white spots above and below the eye, and whitish lines leading from the eyebrows to the muzzle. Patches on sides of neck whitish, the hairs brown basally. Ears brown externally, white internally and at their edges. Limbs brown, darkening nearly to black on the hands and feet. Tail shaggy, dark brown throughout, slightly darkening terminally, without trace of grizzling or annulation.

General build of skull distinctly that of the *N. narica* type and quite different from that either of the delicate *N. montana* and *quichua* or of the still slenderer *N. olivacea*, although

it does not exceed these latter in length. It is stout and strongly built, the zygomata heavy and widely expanded, the ridges well developed, the muzzle not pinched in above, the posterior palate broad, parallel-sided, and little ridged on its buccal aspect, and the bullæ smaller and less globular than in *N. narica*. Teeth shaped as in *N. narica*, but markedly smaller throughout, about equal in size to those of *N. montana*.

Dimensions of the type (an old male, measured on the remade skin):—

Total length 910 millim.; head and body 530; tail 380; hind foot, s. u. 77, c. u. 85; ear 28.

Skull: greatest length, from convexity above foramen magnum, 109; basal length (c.) 101; zygomatic breadth 64; interorbital breadth 24; breadth of brain-case 41; palate length from gnathion 67; breadth across outside  $m^1$  30; combined length of last three teeth above 18, ditto below 20.

*Hab.* Cozumel Island, off the coast of Yucatan.

*Type.* Old male. B.M. no. 86. 10. 8. 1. Collected January 1886 by G. F. Gaumer, and presented by Messrs. F. D. Godman and O. Salvin. A young female also in the collection.

This animal has no relationship to the small South-American species *N. montana*, *quichua*, and *olivacea*, but is an insular representative of *N. narica*, from which it differs by its rather darker colour and much smaller size.

#### *Dasyproctu ruatanica*, sp. n.

Closely allied to *D. punctata*, but much smaller.

Size markedly less than in *D. punctata*. Fur, as in that species, everywhere annulated to the roots with black and ochraceous or yellow, the annulations conspicuous on the surface, though rather less so on the rump. On the whole, the fore back is more ochraceous and the hind back more yellow, but the difference is not conspicuous. Under surface like back, but more olivaceous, and there is a white spot on the chin and a yellow patch on the middle of the lower part of the belly. Crown like fore-back. Ears nearly naked, their few hairs blackish. Limbs like body proximally, darkening terminally on hands and feet to grizzled or deep brown. The youngest specimen has the darkest feet, but this is probably accidental.

Skull in general shape closely agreeing with that of the type of *D. punctata*, but conspicuously smaller in all dimensions.

Dimensions of the type (taken on the remade skin) :—

Head and body 435 millim. ; hind foot, s. u. 90, c. u. 101.

Skull : greatest length 96·5 ; basilar length 70·5 ; zygomatic breadth 46 ; nasals, greatest length 36, greatest breadth 18·7 ; interorbital breadth 27·5 ; diastema 22 ; diagonal length of bulla 15 ; length of upper tooth series 17·4.

*Hab.* Ruatan Island, Bay of Honduras.

*Type.* Adult female. B.M. no. 86. 10. 8. 7. Presented by Messrs. F. D. Godman and O. Salvin. Collected by G. F. Gaumer. Three specimens examined.

This is evidently a pauperized insular representative of the continental *D. punctata*, Gray. In colour it is rather richer than the type, more strongly fulvous anteriorly and yellow posteriorly ; but this is possibly merely due to the age and probable fading of Gray's type specimen.

XXXVIII.—*On a Collection of Small Mammals from the Upper Nile obtained by Mr. R. M. Hawker.* By OLDFIELD THOMAS, F.R.S.

MR. R. MACDONALD HAWKER, to whom the National Museum already owes many valuable mammals collected by him during his various expeditions into northern and north-eastern Africa, has now presented to the Museum the specimens obtained during his last winter's trip to the Soudan. They were mostly obtained on the White Nile between Fashoda and Khartoum, and are highly valuable both as supplementing the Museum collection, still very incomplete, from the Soudan, and as illustrating the many species described by Heuglin from specimens no longer in existence. The definite identification of these species of Heuglin's is a matter of the utmost value.

The number of species in Mr. Hawker's collection is not very large, but among them there are a new hare and a new gerbille ; and I have also taken the opportunity to describe a new member of the latter group obtained by Lord Delamere in East Africa.

1. *Cercopithecus sabæus*, auctorum, nec Linn.

♂. Renk, 250 miles south of Khartoum. 13th May.